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hash table

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xferences

- [hash coding](#)
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- [hashing](#)
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adjacent entries

- [hash_collision](#)
- [hash_function](#)
- [hash_table](#)
- [hashing](#)
- [Hayes_bridge](#)
- [Hayes-compatible](#)
- [HBA](#)

hashing

A process by which access to files or other information can be accelerated. It is a with an indexing function (key) that decreases the number of elements that need searched. *Hashing* is commonly used for improving access to lists such as dictionary lists.

Each data item to be stored is associated with a key, e.g., the name of a person. function is applied to the item's key, and the resulting hash value is used as an in hash table. The table contains pointers to the original items. If the hash table al entry at the indicated location, then that entry's key must be compared with the see if it is the same. If two items' keys hash to the same value (a hash collision), an alternative location is used (e.g., the next free location following the indicated o performance, the hash table size and hash function must be tailored to the range used. Also called [hash coding](#).

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